

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3609

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt certain silviculture activities from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2000

Mr. SANDLIN (for himself, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. BERRY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt certain silviculture activities from permits under the national pollutant discharge elimination system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN SILVICULTURE AC-**
4 **TIVITIES FROM NPDES PERMITS.**

5 Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control
6 Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) is amended by adding at the end
7 the following:

8 “(q) EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN SILVICULTURE AC-
9 TIVITIES.—No permit shall be required under this section

1 for discharges from silviculture activities, and for dis-
2 charges of stormwater runoff from silvicultural activities,
3 conducted in connection with—

4 “(1) site preparation;

5 “(2) reforestation (including subsequent cul-
6 tural treatment);

7 “(3) thinning;

8 “(4) prescribed burning;

9 “(5) pest and fire control;

10 “(6) harvesting operations;

11 “(7) surface drainage;

12 “(8) road construction and maintenance; and

13 “(9) nursery operations.”.

14 **SEC. 2. POINT SOURCE DEFINED.**

15 Section 502 (14) of the Federal Water Pollution Con-
16 trol Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(14)) is amended by striking the
17 second sentence and inserting the following: “This term
18 does not include agricultural stormwater discharges, re-
19 turn flows from irrigated agriculture, and discharges of
20 stormwater runoff from silvicultural activities described in
21 section 402 (q).”.

○